GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6197
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2005
SAFE POTABLE WATER IN VILLAGES
Reddy Shri Magunta Sreenivasulu

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prawn culture introduced in the villages along the sea cost of A.P. and other coastal States have played havoc with lives of villages, as the potable drinking water has turned saline, ground water has got contaminated and Costal Regulation Zone (CRZ) violations have upset the coastal ecology; and

(b) if so, the measures taken by the Government to provide potable drinking water to these States affected by prawn culture?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a) & (b) Rural drinking water supply is a state subject. Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to the State Governments through the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) for implementation of water supply schemes by the States. 15% of ARWSP grants provided to States can be utilized for tackling water quality problems. With effect from 1/4/1998, the State Governments have been empowered to plan, sanction and implement the water supply schemes by themselves and they need not approach the Central Government for sanction of projects. As per the information available from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, most of the prawn culture affected areas in the coastal region of Andhra Pradesh especially East Godavari, West Godavari and Nellore districts have been covered with Protected Water Supply (PWS) schemes and Comprehensive Protected Water Supply (CPWS) schemes, with safe alternate surface water sources.